

# ADVANTAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS

January 2010

Forward To A Friend 

## Inside Advantage

### In This Issue:

Advantage Capital News

[Advantage Capital drives more than \\$40 million of New Markets program investments into Louisiana during 2009](#)

[Advantage Capital supports Haiti disaster relief efforts by donating to Haitian hospital with firm ties](#)

Portfolio Company News

[Kionix](#)

[Virent Energy Systems](#)

[Stadium Grill](#)

Advantage People

[Jeremy Degenhart](#)

About Us

[Advantage Capital Partners](#)

[Federal New Markets Tax Credit program](#)

[State New Markets Development programs](#)

[Certified Capital Company program](#)

### Ticker Tape Update:

To date, Advantage Capital has partnered with its portfolio companies to help create more than 14,168 jobs

## Advantage Capital News

### Advantage Capital drives more than \$40 million of New Markets Program investments into Louisiana during 2009

[Advantage Capital Partners](#) and its small business lending division [BizCapital](#) provided \$41 million of New Markets program financing throughout the state of Louisiana during 2009. The significant amount of investments, all made in connection with the federal New Markets Tax credit program and Louisiana New Markets Development program, underscores the firm's commitment to supporting small business growth and the revitalization of low-income communities across the state. To continue reading, go [here](#).

[back to top](#)

### Advantage Capital supports Haiti disaster relief efforts by donating to Haitian hospital with firm ties

Advantage Capital has made a substantial donation to [Hospital Sacre Coeur](#) to support Haiti's earthquake relief efforts. The hospital is located more than 100 miles north of Port-au-Prince, where the epicenter of the earthquake struck. Hospital Sacre Coeur escaped damage and is one of the few health care facilities in the country that is equipped to meet the surgical needs of the victims injured by the earthquake. To date, the hospital has received more than 250 severely injured patients and more continue to arrive by road and helicopter for treatment.

Hospital Sacre Coeur is the largest hospital in the North of Haiti. Located in the town of Milot, the hospital is operated by the Center for the Rural Development of Milot (CRUDEM). The once 73 bed full service facility has more than tripled in size since the earthquake and now holds 300 beds with five operating rooms and more than 40 volunteer doctors and nurses. Advantage Capital managing director Louis Dubuque is a son of the hospital's founder, Dr. Ted Dubuque. To learn more about CRUDEM and how you can help the hospital during this time of critical need, please visit <http://www.crudem.org/>

[back to top](#)

## Portfolio Company News

### New York CAPCO investment Kionix named a SONY Green Partner

nationwide and our investments have resulted in more than \$6 billion in follow-on capital.

[Kionix](#), a leading supplier of silicon-micromachined MEMS inertial sensors to the global electronics industry, was recently certified as a SONY Green Partner, a designation that distinguishes Kionix for its leadership and responsible citizenship relative to environmental policies and business practices. To read more, go [here](#).

Advantage Capital first invested in Kionix in 2003 in connection with New York's Certified Capital Company program. In October 2009, Kionix was acquired by [Rohm Co., Ltd.](#) of Kyoto, Japan. Kionix continues to carry its name and produce products at its headquarters facility in Ithaca, NY.

[back to top](#)

---

## **Advantage Capital portfolio company Virent Energy Systems named to the 50 hottest companies in bioenergy list by *Biofuels Digest***

Madison, Wisconsin-based [Virent Energy Systems](#) ranked #21 on the [Biofuels Digest](#) list of 50 hottest companies in bioenergy for 2009-2010. The list salutes innovation and achievement in bioenergy development. Virent's [BioForming](#) process is a recognized leader in advanced biofuels technologies. The company's technology converts abundant plant sugars from non-food and home grown sources into gasoline, jet fuel and diesel hydrocarbon molecules previously refined only from petroleum.

Advantage Capital invested in Virent in 2005 with funds raised in connection with the Wisconsin Certified Capital Company program. To read more about Virent Energy Systems and the bioenergy list, go [here](#).

[back to top](#)

---

## **Columbia, Missouri's Stadium Grill named Best New Restaurant for 2009**

[Stadium Grill](#), a Columbia, Mo. sports grill that is connected to the [Hampton Inn & Suites](#), has been named the "Best New Restaurant for 2009" by the readers of [CoMo Whine and Dine](#). The popular Columbia blog is devoted to restaurant reviews and recently reported that Stadium Grill took nearly 50 percent of the votes in a comparative survey.

Advantage Capital provided New Markets program financing to both the Stadium Grill and the adjacent Hampton Inn & Suites, which is owned and operated by Stadium Lodging, LLC. The restaurant and hotel developer had the vision to renovate the formerly run-down Campus Inn motel at the corner of College and Stadium Boulevard, breathing new life into a blighted property. The newly developed hotel and restaurant are now in an ideal location to serve the many visitors to the University of Missouri.

[back to top](#)

---

## **Advantage People**



### **Jeremy Degenhart receives *St. Louis Business Journal* 40 under 40 award**

Advantage Capital senior vice president Jeremy Degenhart was recently named one of the *St. Louis Business Journal's* "40 under 40" award recipients. The annual awards honor individuals, all under the age of 40,

who have demonstrated significant career achievements and undertaken impactful community work in the St. Louis area. The winners were recently featured in the January 15 issue of the *Business Journal*, and an awards dinner honoring the individuals will be held on February 11 at Palladium Saint Louis.

"Jeremy has built an impressive track record of helping promote small business growth throughout St. Louis and other parts of the country," said Scott A. Zajac, senior managing director at Advantage Capital.

Degenhart joined Advantage Capital Partners in 2001 and is responsible for deal-flow screening, due diligence, and portfolio company monitoring.

[back to top](#)

---

## About Us

---

### About Advantage Capital Partners

[Advantage Capital Partners](#) is a leading small business finance firm focused on providing growth capital and other investments supporting state and local economic development efforts. The firm's typical forms of investment include venture capital, expansion equity, mezzanine financing, senior and subordinated loans and government-guaranteed lending. With offices and partners in Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans and other U.S. cities, Advantage Capital has raised nearly \$1.4 billion in institutional capital since 1992 and invested in companies located in geographic areas underserved by traditional capital.

[back to top](#)

---

### About the federal New Markets Tax Credit program

The [New Markets Tax Credit program](#), administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, encourages private-sector investment in economically distressed communities through tax incentives. In a highly competitive allocation procedure, the Treasury Department awards the tax credits based on applications submitted for each tax year. Advantage has participated in the New Markets program since 2003, raising private capital for investment in low-income communities. These investments have spurred economic growth through innovative business ventures and job creation throughout the United States.

[back to top](#)

---

### About the state New Markets Development programs

In addition to the federal New Markets Tax Credit program, Advantage Capital also participates in a number of state-level New Markets programs, which attract investment in low-income communities through a state tax credit modeled after the federal program. The tax credits are only available to highly qualified investors who have been accredited under the federal program. The goal of these initiatives is to attract large, long-term investors to a state's low-income communities, promoting new expansion, creating new job opportunities and building on existing growth in the state. To date, the following states have passed a state-level New Markets Development program: Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, Illinois and Florida.

[back to top](#)

---

### About the Certified Capital Company program

Advantage Capital Partners is a leading participant in the [Certified Capital Company \(CAPCO\) program](#), a state economic development tool designed to strengthen state economies by stimulating the flow of investment capital to local small businesses, creating high-paying jobs and increasing state tax revenues. Under a CAPCO program, insurance

companies are encouraged to invest in certified capital companies; the state allows the insurance companies to claim tax credits for qualified investments in CAPCO funds. Taken over time, the tax credits generate large pools of private venture capital to be invested in the state. CAPCOs leverage the funds received from insurance companies to invest in qualified small businesses.

[back to top](#)

Click Here to Visit Our Website

Powered by:  
**Brighton.**  
redefine